



**SUPREME COURT OF DELAWARE**

LEO E. STRINE, JR.  
CHIEF JUSTICE

THE RENAISSANCE CENTRE  
405 N. KING STREET, SUITE 505  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801

July 8, 2019

The Honorable John C. Carney  
Governor of the State of Delaware  
Carvel State Office Building  
820 N. French Street, 12th Floor  
Wilmington, DE 19801

Dear Governor Carney:

I intend to resign as Chief Justice this autumn, upon the nomination, confirmation, and swearing in of my successor. To ensure that you and the Senate can hold the special session traditionally called each autumn at your convenience, I am prepared to serve through the end of October, if that is helpful to you. I would ask the courtesy to leave office as of the last day of either September or October, as that is what I am told is best for the Pension Office and my family in terms of scheduling my retirement from state service.

This decision is bittersweet, as I am sure you understand, but the main emotion I feel is gratitude.

Gratitude:

to the people of this state for allowing me the chance to serve them in challenging capacities since 1992;

to Governors Carper and Markell and the Senate for entrusting me with important judicial responsibilities;

to the committed public servants in the Executive and Legislative Branches with whom I have had the privilege to work;

to the members of the public whose willingness to give their time and expertise to help on issues of public policy is so critical to progress and the effectiveness of our government;

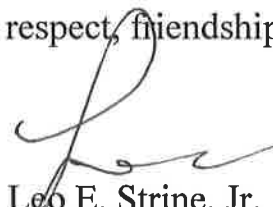
to the hard-working employees of our Judiciary, who treat litigants and the public with courtesy and respect and who are essential to our Judiciary's national reputation for excellence; and

to my colleagues in the Bench and Bar who work so hard to make this state a more just place, to make Delaware an internationally respected center for the fair and ethical resolution of business disputes, and to close the large gap that still exists between the promise of equal rights and the reality for too many Delawareans, especially African-Americans.

I am also grateful, Governor, that I can say to you with confidence that the Judiciary of this state is strong, that we are addressing our challenging and diverse caseloads with diligence, skill and dispatch, and that we are continually looking for

ways to serve the people of Delaware even more effectively. In particular, the entire Judiciary is deeply invested in improving access to justice for all Delawareans, and doing what we can to improve the fairness of our criminal justice system. As Carrie and I move on to a new phase of our lives, I just hope that during my nearly 27 years of service to Delaware, I have contributed in some modest way to making our state stronger and more equitable.

With profound gratitude, respect, friendship, and warm regards,



Leo E. Strine, Jr.  
Chief Justice

LESJr/cb